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Letter dated 15 September 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on Myanmar, issued on 11 September 1998 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Ernst **Sucharipa**
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Myanmar issued on 11 September 1998 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union condemns the detention by the authorities of Myanmar of over 100 opposition activists, including over 60 members of Parliament-elect from the National League for Democracy and from ethnic minority parties such as the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy.

The European Union considers this to be an unacceptable violation of their freedom and a step away from democracy.

The European Union calls for an immediate release of all political detainees in Myanmar and for the authorities of Myanmar urgently to enter into a substantive dialogue with opposition parties and to respect the 1990 general election results.

The central and eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.